

Iraq Program Summary – March 2006

Since 2003, USAID/OFDA has contributed more than \$183 million to provide humanitarian assistance to vulnerable populations in Iraq. To date in FY 2005 and 2006, USAID/OFDA has committed more than \$70 million to support humanitarian needs, including establishing emergency health services; rehabilitating water treatment and sewage plants, clinics, hospitals, and schools; and promoting livelihoods. Due to the highly vulnerable nature of the internally displaced person (IDP) population in Iraq, USAID/OFDA's ongoing programs prioritize humanitarian assistance for IDPs.

WATER AND SANITATION

USAID/OFDA is funding five implementing partners to improve IDPs' access to safe drinking water and adequate sanitation facilities. One of USAID/OFDA's implementing partners is providing approximately 210,000 IDPs and affected community members in At Ta'mim, Ninawa, Dahuk and Karbala' governorates with safe drinking water as well as sanitation facilities. Two other partners are providing safe water and sanitation facilities for targeted IDP and returnee communities in Arbil, Ninawa, Salah ad Din, Baghdad, Al Anbar, Diyala, and At Ta'mim governorates. Related health and hygiene promotion campaigns implemented by three partners help ensure that safe drinking water does not become contaminated prior to use.

HEALTH

With funding from USAID/OFDA, four partners are implementing programs to improve IDPs' health. Access to basic healthcare is limited in areas with high concentrations of IDPs. USAID/OFDA's implementing partners are providing primary healthcare for approximately 200,000 IDPs and members of affected communities, have established 7 mobile medical units serving an additional 20,000 people, and are rehabilitating two sub-clinics in rural areas. USAID/OFDA's partners have increased IDPs' and returning IDPs' access to primary healthcare. Additionally, one partner recently concluded a project designed to strengthen the capacity of the Directorate of Health in a southern governorate.

LIVELIHOODS

Five USAID/OFDA partners are overseeing programs targeting livelihoods. One partner is providing income-generation opportunities for up to 40,000 IDPs and resident community members in At Ta'mim, Ninawa, Dahuk, and Karbala' governorates through livelihood support activities and community public works projects in which participants are paid to work. Another partner is providing income-generation activities equivalent to 30,000 days of paid labor for 100 families in Al Anbar. Two partners are improving the socio-economic conditions for IDPs and returnees through cash-for-work and income-generation programs, and another partner is providing household starter kits to 5,000 families.

ASSISTANCE TO IDPS

Six USAID/OFDA partners are providing assistance to IDPs throughout Iraq. More than 300,000 IDPs have received emergency relief commodities from USAID/OFDA partners. One partner has established representative Community Action Groups to provide for the identification and implementation of 20 community empowerment projects serving up to 20,000 beneficiaries in Al Anbar. In order to best assist IDPs, a number of USAID/OFDA partners adapt plans for the provision and implementation of relief commodities as IDP populations move to new areas or as additional needs arise.